

No. 708,835.

G. W. SCHOFIELD.  
MERRY-GO-ROUND.

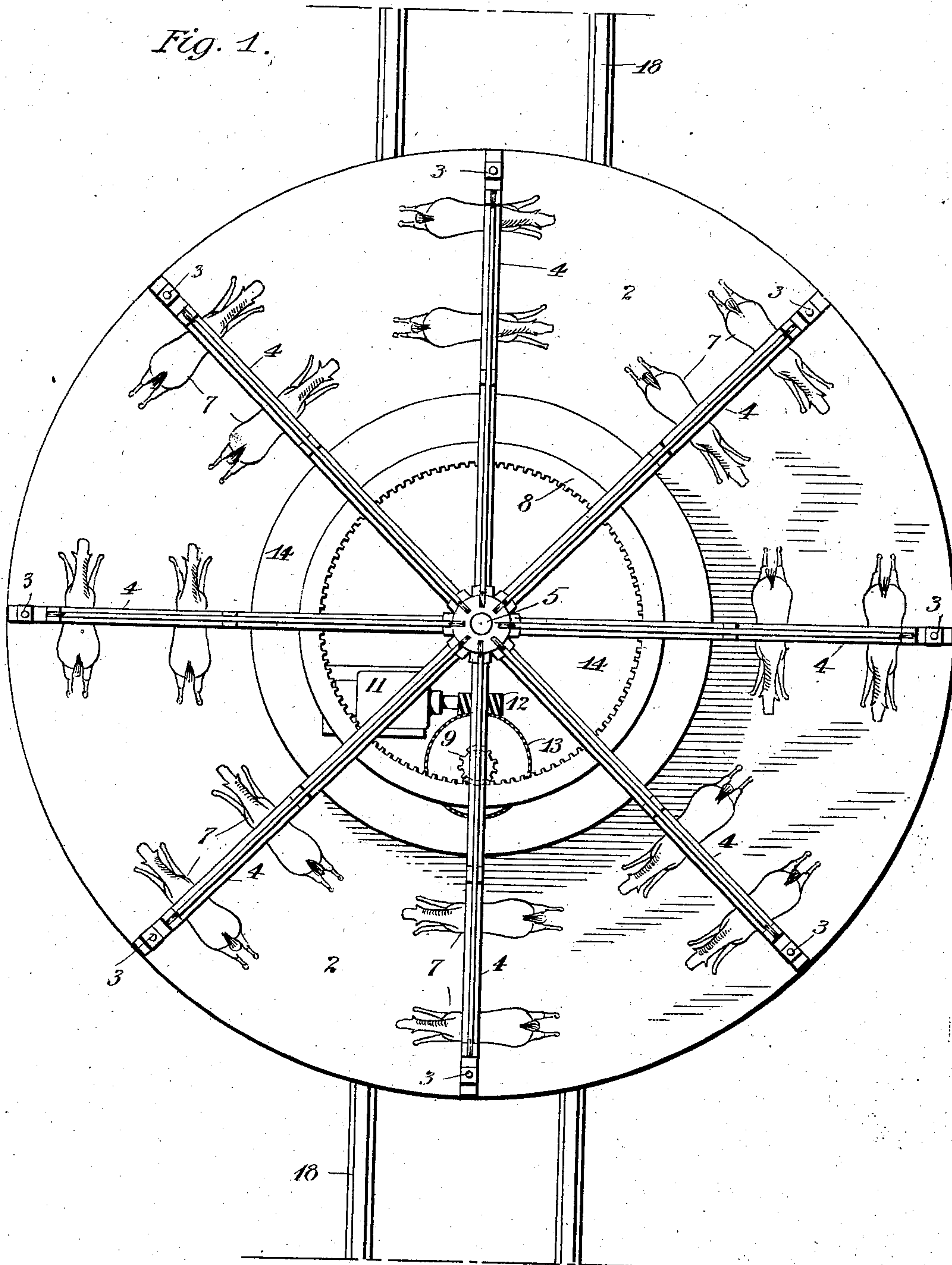
Patented Sept. 9, 1902.

(No Model.)

Application filed Jan. 27, 1902.

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses  
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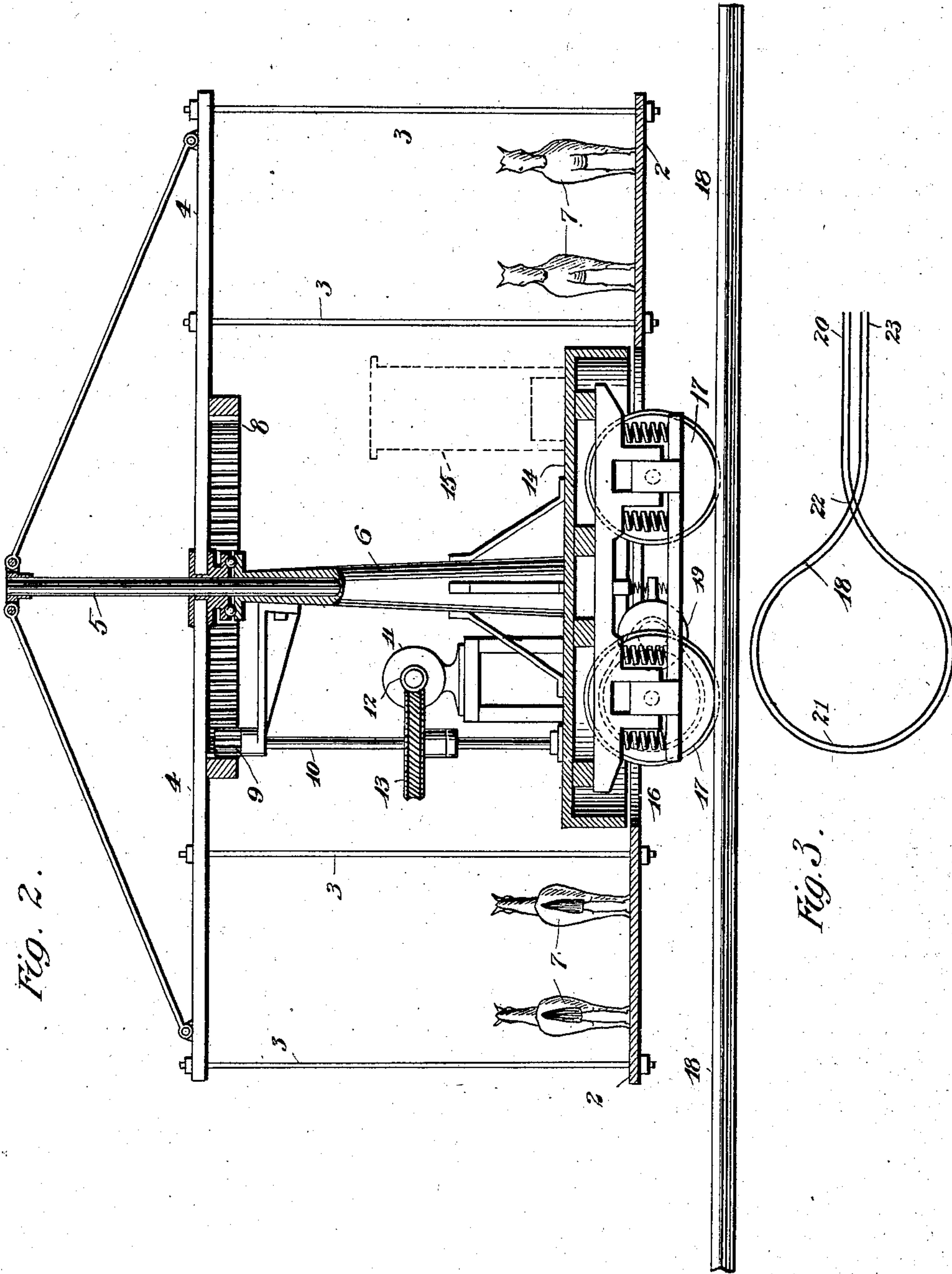
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. SCHOFIELD, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## MERRY-GO-ROUND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 708,835, dated September 9, 1902.

Application filed January 27, 1902. Serial No. 91,494. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. SCHOFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Brooklyn, New York city, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Merry-Go-Rounds, of which the following is such a full, clear, and exact description as will enable any one skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to amusement or recreation apparatus known as a "merry-go-round" or "carousel" and in which figures or devices carrying seats for people to sit in are arranged and operated to travel around a center. These figures or devices which carry the passengers are oftentimes given a motion in addition to that of swinging around a center, and various schemes are resorted to to make the apparatus more attractive and arouse the interest of pleasure seekers.

The principal object of my present invention is to provide an apparatus of this class which has additional and novel features of attraction and by means of which passengers are given new sensations, which while the same are pleasant and amusing are at the same time free from any danger; and to this end my invention consists principally in giving to an apparatus of this class a translatable or migratory movement, as will be fully understood from the description hereinafter given and which is particularly pointed out in the claims.

I have illustrated a type of my invention in the accompanying drawings, wherein Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved form of merry-go-round. Fig. 2 is a section of the same, the plane of which section is vertical and passes centrally through the apparatus. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a certain arrangement of track or way which is used with my apparatus and which is shown on a reduced scale.

Referring to the drawings, in which like numbers of reference designate like parts throughout, 2 is an annular-shaped platform which is suspended in horizontal position by bars 3 from an overhead framework 4, carried upon a vertical rotary shaft 5, which is mounted in suitable bearings in a standard 6.

Upon the circular platform 2 are fixed the ordinary merry-go-round figures 7, which are here shown in the form of horses and upon which the passengers sit, and this structure is turned around by means of an annular gear 8, which is fixed to the framework 4 and is actuated by a pinion 9, carried in fixed position upon the end of an upright shaft 10, which is driven by a motor 11 through means of the gears 12 and 13. The standard 6, as well as the motor 11 and the gearing for rotating the merry-go-round, is mounted upon a suitable table or bed 14, upon which is usually placed a musical instrument or organ, which is indicated in dotted lines at 15. These described parts constitute an ordinary and well-known form of merry-go-round apparatus in which the table or bed 14 is mounted in stationary position.

In my present invention instead of having the center of the merry-go-round about which the passenger-carrying figures or devices are rotated maintained at a fixed point, as has heretofore been the practice, I so construct the apparatus that this center of motion is moved about and is carried from point to point or translated, and this gives to the apparatus a peculiar migratory or translatable motion, which, in connection with the rotary motion of the figures moving through their regular circular path, results in a peculiar compound motion or movement of the passenger-carrying figures or devices. This is brought about by mounting the merry-go-round upon a suitable carrier of any well-known type or a vehicle, which carrier or vehicle is to travel from point to point over a certain desired area, and such carrier may be a suitable float that is moved through the water or it may be a vehicle or car of any kind which is drawn or propelled along a track or path.

In the construction herewith shown the merry-go-round is mounted upon a car 16, having two sets of wheels 17, which travel on an ordinary car-track 18, and this car is self-propelling, it being provided with a motor 19, which may be electric or of any other well-known type, such as steam or gasolene. In using the apparatus after the passengers are seated upon the figures 7 and the motor 11 is started and revolves the platform 2 the car-



motor 19 is started, and this carries the entire structure slowly along over the path provided for it, such path being herewith shown as the track 18, which may be extended over any desired route. While the car is slowly carrying the car over the route, the merry-go-round continues its rotary motion in the usual way, so that the passengers in addition to having the sensation of the usual circular motion are also given the sensation of the translatory motion imparted thereto by the car, which increase the pleasure and amusement of a trip in the apparatus.

The vehicle or car may be run over an ordinary road or path; but I prefer to have it run on a track. In Fig. 3 I show a plan view of a looped form of track in which, starting from the point 20, the track runs straight a slight distance and then curves off to one side and makes a large loop 21, and returning it crosses the first-mentioned part of the track at 22 and then runs back to the point 23 in a substantially parallel manner to the other straight portion of the track. This arrangement of the track is particularly well adapted to be used at a resort where there is but a small frontage of land available upon the main street or thoroughfare, while back of such small frontage a more extended area is available. Such track can be used with the ordinary twenty-five-foot lot frontage for the straight portions of the track and for the terminals of the track, while the large loop of track may be extended out into back lots, where more space can be readily had.

I wish to be understood as not limiting my invention to the specific form of constructions herewith set forth, as it is evident that modifications may be made in the various parts thereof without, however, departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of a merry-go-round,

rotating in a horizontal plane, a traveling carrier or vehicle upon which the merry-go-round is mounted and operated, and means for moving said carrier or vehicle while the merry-go-round is in operation, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of a carrier or vehicle and means for moving the same, a merry-go-round mounted upon said carrier or vehicle and rotating thereon in a horizontal plane, and driving mechanism located upon said carrier or vehicle for actuating the merry-go-round, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of a carrier or vehicle, a track or way along which said carrier or vehicle travels and means for moving the same along the track or way, a merry-go-round mounted upon said carrier or vehicle and rotating thereon in a horizontal plane, and driving mechanism located upon said carrier or vehicle for actuating the merry-go-round, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A self-propelled carrier or vehicle and a merry-go-round mounted upon the same and rotating thereon in a horizontal plane, and driving mechanism mounted upon said carrier or vehicle for actuating said merry-go-round, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. A self-propelled vehicle or car and a track upon which the same runs, a merry-go-round mounted upon said vehicle or car and rotating thereon in a horizontal plane, and driving mechanism located upon the car for actuating said merry-go-round, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE W. SCHOFIELD.

Witnesses:

WILLIS FOWLER,

SAMUEL M. CHESNUT.